एकीकृत कार्गोसंचालन और भंडारों की स्थापना करना; बाजार सूचना के प्रसार और डाटा बेस के संवर्धन के लिए सहायता देना; गुणवत्ता, तकनीकी हस्तांतरण, प्रक्रिया उन्नयन और उत्पाद संवर्धन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उत्पादों की जांच के लिए प्रयोगशाला स्थापित करने के लिए सहायता देना।

Expansion of list of free imports

*398. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly 1308 products have been shifted from restricted list to free imports or the SIL group;

(b) if so, whether most of these items are consumer goods;

(c) whether this list includes agricultural and processed food products also;

(d) if so, what impact it would have on domestic producers in these areas; and

(e) what is the rationale for such a policy of free imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes, Sir. 414 items have been shifted from restricted to SIL list and 894 items have been made freely importable at 8 digit level of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import items.

(b) Some of the items which have been made freely importable are in the nature of consumer goods.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) Customs duty applicable on these items provides adequate protection to domestic producers in these areas.

(e) In pursuance of the objective of overall integration with the world economy, quantitative restrictions on imports are being gradually phased out. However, tariff protection will continue to be available.

Take over of Dunlop India Ltd.

*399. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 61 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st June, 1998 and state:

(a) whether West Bengal Government has requested Government to temporarily take over Dunlop India Ltd. and hand over the management to the State Government before alternate promoter is located;

(b) if so, Government's response to the same;

(c) whether Government propose to take over the company under Clause A of Section 18AA of IDR Act, 1951 which covers mis-management;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Section 18AA of the aforesaid Act overrides SICA, 1985; and

(f) if so, the reasons of Government's reluctance to take over management of the company temporarily?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) The State Govt. of West Bengal had not approached Central Govt. with any proposal to take over the unit by the State Government. The State Govt. had requested for reopening the company and towards this objective, it would like to explore all possibilities including bringing in new promoters to manage the affairs of the company. In the interim, and if necessary, State Govt. could also be associated with the management of the company as a temporary measure provided, financial institutions/Banks bring in the necessary resources and the measure is legally tenable.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to take over the company under Section 18AA of the IDR Act.